

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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What Will Ye Do In The End?

By REV. LYN CLAYBROOK, M.A. Th.M., Pastor
First Baptist Church, Lewisburg, Tenn.

The above question was asked by God's great prophet, Jeremiah, as recorded in the fifth chapter of the book that bears his name and the last verse. The reader is asked to first read this chapter to get its mighty message, as well as to have clearly in mind the context of the text. Now that you have done so, you will readily agree that here is a question that not only did Judah need to heed in that ancient day, but that we all should seriously hear in our day.

"What shall we do in the end?" Surely here is a question we all should face without any effort at evasion. The shores of dead ages are the sombre burial grounds of millions who made shipwreck of life and soul because they neglected or refused to hear and face squarely this question. If even some of these millions could stand before you now and talk to you, they would tell you of the insanity of living in disregard of this question.

These words were spoken at a time of great moral and spiritual wickedness, even as are our times. In verse 7 of chapter 5, God said, "When I had fed them to the full, they then committed adul-

tery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses... every one neighed after his neighbour's wife." If Jeremiah could find one man in Jerusalem who "executed judgment, that seeketh the truth," God offered to pardon the city (5:1). "A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land; The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so" (5:30, 31). The men who should have been speaking for God and calling the people to repentance, those who claimed to be God's men were courting favor and preaching to be popular and to stand in with the high-ups. The deluded and careless populace, as is so often the case, preferred smooth falsehood and soft palaver to stern and honest truth. Rulers were more concerned about holding their jobs than in saving their country. Notwithstanding the fact that they were on the very brink of ruin by the invasion of the Chaldeans, they all felt perfectly safe behind the defenses they had builded around their city. "None could believe, no king, no man of them that foe or enemy could ever enter inside Jerusalem" (Lam. 4:12 Mof.). It was at such times as these that grand old Jeremiah asked his people this question, "What will ye do in the end?"

We need a million rugged and weeping Jeremiahs to go abroad
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Rev. Lyn Claybrook

The Mercies of God

By the Late EVANGELIST BILLY SUNDAY
(Excerpts of a sermon preached in Omaha, Nebraska, 1915)

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."—Rom. 12:1.

We have here a call for volunteers, not an order for a draft. The armies of God are never made up of drafted men and women, ordered into service whether willing or not. God never owned a slave. God does not want you to do anything that you can't do without protest. This is not a call to hard duty, but an invitation to the enjoyment of a privilege.

It is not a call to hired labor to take the hoe and go into the field, but the appeal of a loving Father to His children to partake of all He has to give.

If there is nothing in you that will respond to God's appeal when you think of His mercies, I don't think much of you. The impelling motive of my text is gratitude, not fear. It looks to Calvary, not to Sinai. We are being entreated, not threatened. That is the amazing thing to me. To think that God would entreat us—would

stand to entreat us! He is giving me a chance to show I love Him.

If you are not ready to offer it in gratitude, God doesn't want your service. He doesn't want you to serve Him through fear, but because you realize His love for you and appreciate and respond to it. Just consider whether God has been good to us. How many times and how much has He been good to us!

A man who loves his wife will never be too busy to do something for her, never be too busy to stop sometimes to think of how good she has been and what she has done for him. If men would only think of the things God has done for them, there would be less card playing, less thought of dinners and of concerts and other diversions of the world. God wants us to sit down and think over His goodness to us. The men who do not, are not worth a nickel a bunch. Has God done anything for us as a nation; has He done anything for us as individuals that commands our gratitude?

Cannot Count Mercies

A man was out walking at night with his little daughter, and the stars were out and very bright. The little girl looked up into the shining vault of Heaven, so thickly studded with the shining orbs, and said: "Let's count them, papa." And, beginning at one, she counted five, and then ten, and twenty, and thirty, and forty, and fifty, and up to 100, and 125 and 126. And then she said: "Oh, I'm

tired, papa. There are 126. I didn't know there were so many." Astronomers have counted 380,000,000 stars, and they have not yet commenced. Why, you might as well try to count those countless stars as to try to count God's mercies. You might as well try to count the drops of water in the sea or the grains of sand upon the shore, or the office-seekers after a presidential election. If we only think, we shall say with David: "According to thy tender mercies."

God will not force you to count His mercies. He will not choke you into doing His will. But if you refuse to do His work, knowing of the many mercies God has bestowed upon you, you have lost all right to be called a man.

Go back one short year in your life and try to count the many blessings God has given you. You will find yourself unable to count them all.

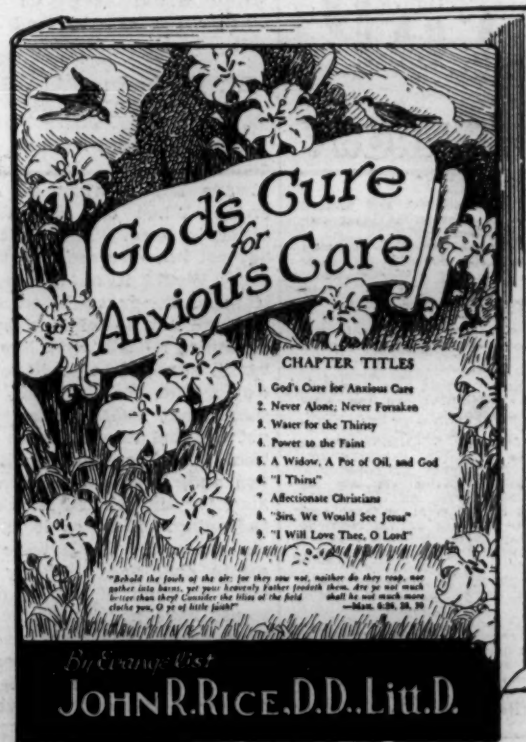
Come Too Fast to Count

An old lady said one morning that she would try to count all God's mercies for that one day;
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Rev. Billy Sunday

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Spirit-Filled Means Empowered Witnessing

By EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."—Acts 1:8.

In this chapter we shall show beyond any possibility of a doubt that to be Spirit-filled means not anything else but to be empowered for witnessing and soul winning. The Holy Spirit may give various gifts when He comes in power, but always when He fills a Christian, it is for soul-winning witnessing and service. It is an incidental matter whether Spirit-filled Christians talked in foreign languages to those who heard them. Once, at Pentecost, Spirit-filled Christians were enabled to preach the gospel to foreign-born Jews in the language in which they were born. Other times Spirit-filled Christians did not speak in foreign languages at all.

But always in the Bible, Spirit-filled people witnessed for Christ and were empowered for service and soul winning. Once in the Bible Spirit-filled Christians heard a sound of a rushing mighty wind. Then, too, tongues like as of fire visibly sat upon them. Another time Spirit-filled Christians felt the place shaken where they were gathered. In other cases there was no such outward physical manifestation. But always in the Bible Spirit-filled Christians were empowered for service and testimony, particularly prepared for soul winning. First, the Lord Jesus Himself plainly said that this would be true. Second, the examples given us before Pentecost

show that supernatural power for service and testimony was always given when one was filled with the Spirit. And, third, the examples in the book of Acts show the same thing.

I. The Lord Jesus Expressly Promised Soul-Winning Power for All Who Are Filled With the Holy Spirit

One who believes the Bible and takes it at simple face value need have no doubt about the meaning of Pentecost. Men's difficulties on this subject are primarily because they do not listen carefully and take at face value what Jesus Christ Himself said about it.

1. That Promise Was Given to the Apostles With the Great Commission

In the Great Commission which Jesus gave His disciples before He ascended to Heaven, after His resurrection, our Lord plainly commanded that the gospel must
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in America now and thunder this question into the ears and hearts of the people of our land. The only difference between America now and Judah then is that they thought they were secure and we know we are not. We know we live in the most dangerous time in all history. Yet, in spite of that fact, we are doing as did Judah who "refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return" (5:3).

Reason, revelation, observation and common sense all bid us give grave consideration to consequences. He is a fool indeed who thinks only of the deed and disregards its effect; who follows a course without knowing where it inevitably leads; who has regard for beginnings but none for endings. This is the insane and insane folly of millions of Americans. They sow to the wind but seem never to dream that they must reap the whirlwind. There are three or four facts which I would press upon them within the brief limits of this sermon.

I. Every Path, Every Way, Every Course of Thought or Conduct Has Two Ends, and He Who Chooses One Must Choose Both

Every way has an entrance and an exit. He who goes in at the entrance must come out at the exit. In life there is no such thing as turning around. Life is lived in a straight line. We may possibly alter our course at a given point by choosing a different direction, but go back we may not. When a thing is done "tis done." We can no more turn around and go back in the business of living than we can turn the sun around and have it go back. We can turn the clock up or back, but not the sun. It goes on its course just the same. So do we. We may not pursue any given course entered upon to its ultimate or final end; that is to

say, to the end of our lives; but no amount of time spent in any course can fail of its results. Thus one may follow a given course only one hour, one day, one week, one year. In any event, that course had a beginning and an end. The time spent in it cannot fail of its result, and often dire and baneful results come of brief indulgence in a certain course.

Remember the great sin of David. It did not take him long to get it done, but it took him a long time to get through reaping its frightful and terrible harvest. A moment's fling in sin has spelled ruin to the lives of untold numbers of people.

Yes, there is a terrible finality about each and every deed, every choice, every act of our lives. When Pilate said, "What I have written, I have written," he expressed a universal truth about all human conduct. What is done is done. What we sow we must reap. Not even God proposes to thwart the harvest. Let us lay it to heart that we must choose both ends of any given course if we choose the first end. Not only so, but

II. The End Follows so Close on the Heels of the Beginning

Time is a relative thing. Eighty years seems a long time in prospect; but not so in the retrospect. As thought of by the youth eighty years seems indeed a long time, but not so as known by the old man or woman. When the soil is prepared and the seed are sown, harvest time seems a long time away; but really, is it? The harvest of our thoughts, our deeds often have a way of ripening before our very eyes. Remorse is not delayed but haunts us in the very hour of our wickedness. The next moment after the evil deed or the good deed is done, we begin to reap the fruit of that deed. And, as a rule, reaping time is so much longer than sowing time, and reaping is expected to be a multiple of the sowing.

We are always coming to the end of things in this world. A day isn't very long, is it? And so it is about everything. The cradle and the grave are so close together. Death follows so close on the heels of birth. Our days are so few and short. "We spend our years as a tale that is told." If we will keep these facts before us, the question of our subject and text will come with peculiar force. "What shall we do in the end?" Let us lay it to heart that the end is not so far away as Satan would have us believe, when he seeks to lead us into evil.

III. Beginnings Also Follow All Endings

If one day did not end, another could not begin. But a new day always begins when an old day ends. When one day dies, another is born. The fruit of the harvest becomes seed for the sowing. Would it not be wonderful if some things could come to an end and not be followed by a new beginning? All who live in sin would surely like to have it that way. The fool would like to think that death ends all. But not so, and herein is the rub for him. We speak of death as the end and, in one sense it is. But alas, for the wicked it is also the beginning. Even so it is for the righteous. If death were an absolute end, as infidelity would have it, then of course our text would have no significance. Neither would anything else. One course would be as another. If at the end of life we are going to arrive at the end of everything and make no more beginnings, then why worry? One thing is as good as another. Nothing in such an event matters. But death, the great end, is a new and eternal beginning and then we will all be rewarded for the deeds done in the earthly body. We will reap the harvest of our sowing; if we have been faithful over life's "few things," we will be entrusted with "greater things." So the question of our text really becomes, "What will ye do in the

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but at noon she was becoming confused, and at two o'clock she threw up her hands and said: "They come three times too fast for me to count."

A visitor to an insane asylum was walking through the grounds and as he passed one of the buildings he heard a voice from a bared window high up in the wall, and it said: "Stranger, did you ever thank God for your reason?" He had never thought of that before, but he says that he has thought of it every day since. Did you ever think that thousands of people who were just as good as you are, are beating their heads against the walls of padded cells? Did you ever think what a blessed thing it is that you are sane and can go home to be greeted by your wife and have your children climb about you? Did you, or you (pointing to individuals) ever thank God that you have a mind and can think?

Thankful for Reason

A lot of you folks ought to thank God that you are not pounding on the lining of a padded cell, and that God allows you to keep your reason. He gives you reason and the ability to exercise the brain with which He endowed you. He spreads before your eyes the wonderful panorama of nature, fills your ears with melodies and songs and permits you to enjoy a sunrise or a sunset; and yet how many of you ever think of thanking Him for it?

Did you ever thank God for your eyes? Did you ever thank Him that you can see the sunrise and the sunset, can see the flowers and the trees and look upon the storm? Did you ever thank God that you have two good eyes while so many others less fortunate than you must grope their way in blindness to the coffin?

Did you ever thank God for hearing? That you can hear music and the voices of friends and dear ones? That you can leave your home and business and come here and hear the songs and the preaching of the Word of God? Did you ever think what it would mean to be deaf?

Blessing of Taste

Did you ever thank God for the blessing of taste? Some people

end, which is not really the end but an eternal beginning?"

IV. Here Is a Question Which Christ Alone Can Help Us to Answer With Any Sort of Confidence

He alone can save our beginnings and make safe our endings. He said, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending." All beginnings without Him have bad endings. All endings without Him are terrible and tragic beginnings. We need to take Him into all our beginnings. If He is with us, we shall never need to fear any beginning or ending. Not even death can harm us if He is there awaiting us, and we can be absolutely certain He will be there if we have loved Him and followed Him on this side of death.

But to have Him at the end, we must accept Him and trust Him before the end comes. We need Him to save all our beginnings and to make safe all our endings. Therefore, the time to come to Him is now.

A pupil of a certain wise old rabbi asked his teacher when he should fulfill a certain precept of the law.

"The day before you die," said his rabbi.

"But I may die tomorrow," answered the pupil.

"Then do it today," said the rabbi.

Dear reader, every minute, every hour, every day, every week, every year you have spent without Him is lost forever. If you went at the beginning of each of these periods of your life without Him and came out without Him, the whole of each is lost. Every part of each spent without Him is lost. What will ye do about any end to which you have ever come or will ever come without Him. Oh, think, think hard, "What will ye do in the end?"

can't tell whether they are eating sawdust and shavings or strawberries and ice cream. Think of the good things we enjoy! Others have tastes so vicious that they find it almost impossible to eat. God might have made our food taste like quinine. God might have made everything taste like garbage—but He didn't. Did you ever thank God that we don't have to hold our noses when we sit down to the table?

Did you ever thank God that you can breathe without pain? One person in every ten dies of consumption—and you can breathe. Think how many women die of cancer—one out of eight—and you are free from it.

Did you ever thank God that you can sleep? If not, you ought to be kept awake for a month. Think of the thousands who suffer from pain or insomnia so they can sleep only under opiates. Did you ever wake up in the morning and thank God that you have had a good night's rest? If you haven't, God ought to keep you awake for a week, then you would know you have had reason to be thankful.

Sleeps and Eats Little

If there is anything for which you should thank God, it is for the blessing of sleep. It was said that Napoleon could get along with four hours' sleep, but I have him beaten.

I don't suppose there is a man anywhere who sleeps and eats less and works harder than I do. Night after night I tumble and toss, unable to sleep. But I am on the high gear for God. I am speeding up in His work, and whenever I have to go into low, I'll beat it. I am going to fight for God as long as I can stand, and when I cannot fight any longer, I am ready to go.

Did you ever thank God for the doctors and nurses and hospitals? For the surgeon who comes with scalpel and trocar to save your life or relieve your sufferings? If it hadn't been for them, you'd be under the grass. For the nurse who watches over you that you may be restored to health?

All Good From God

All good comes from God. All that is bad comes from the Devil. Why, then, be on the side of the Devil? Any man or woman is a fool to be on the Devil's side when all he ever does is to hurt you.

Did you ever thank God for the bread you eat, while so many others are hungry? Did you ever thank Him for the enemy who has been baffled, for the lie against you that has failed?

Out in Elgin, Illinois, a friend took me out riding. He said that he wanted me to go with him to see a man. He took me to see a man who was lying in bed, with arms pitifully wasted by suffering. The poor fellow said he had been in bed for thirty-two years, but he wasn't worrying about that. He said he was so sorry for the well people who don't know Jesus. I went out thanking God that I could walk!

By your baby that you will kiss good-night when you go home, spared to you when some other mother's darling is laid away; by your wife and your children; by your mother, your health, your happiness—by all these God has blessed you. Have you ever counted those blessings?

Hearts Should Melt

If your hearts are not made of stone or adamant, they will melt with gratitude when you think of the many mercies, the tender mercies of God.

"Brethren"—that is what God had Paul call His true followers. No speaking from the loft. If there is any lesson we need to learn, it is that of being "brethren."

A friend of mine went to England to preach and one day spoke at a noonday meeting of workingmen, presided over by the daughter of an earl. She said to those men:

"You ought to be convinced that we of the aristocracy are interested in you people of the working class and in your problems, now that we bring this gentlemen from America to speak to you."

They applauded, those working-



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men did! They cried, "Hear! Hear!" That will go in aristocratic England, where they bow and scrape to royalty, but it won't go in democratic America.

Sinners are not called "brethren" in the Bible. God commands sinners. They are in rebellion. He entreats Christians. When Lincoln called for volunteers, he addressed men as "citizens of the United States," not as foreigners.

The man who is appreciative of God's mercies will not have much mercy on himself. Don't stand up and say: "I'll do just what Jesus bids me do, and go where He bids me to go," then go to bed. Present your body—not mine nor your wife's; you must present your own. Present your body—not your neighbor's, not your children's; it is their duty to do that. Do you trust God enough to let Him do what He wants to do?

Moody Was Ready

Henry Varley said to Moody, when that great American was in England, that God is waiting to show this world what one man could do for Him. Moody said, "Varley, by the grace of God, I will be that man"; and God took hold of Moody and shook the foundations of Hell with him. God would shake the world with us today if only we would present our bodies as living sacrifices to Him.

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The Mercies of God

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as Moody did. Are you willing to present yourself? I believe that the angels are leaning out over the battlements of glory tonight waiting to hear how you will answer this appeal to God.

At the opening of the Civil War many a man was willing that the country should be saved by able-bodied male relatives of his wife, who made themselves bullet-meat, but he didn't go himself. God isn't asking for other men's bodies. He is asking for yours. If all would give to God what rightfully belongs to Him, I tell you, He would create a commotion on earth and in Hell.

The present war in Europe is a terrible thing. Nation is fighting nation, and thousands are dying daily, but that war is but a plaything to the war between God and the Devil.

If God had the feet of some of you, He would point your toes in different ways than you have been going for many years. If He had your feet, He would never head you into a booze joint. If He had your feet, He would never send you to a ballroom.

If He had the feet of some of you, He would make you wear out shoe leather lugging back what you have taken that does not belong to you. If God had your feet, He would take you to prayer meetings. I am afraid the preacher would have nervous prostration, for he hasn't seen some of you there in years.

If God had your feet, you would find it harder to follow the Devil. He would make your daily walk conform to the Golden Rule and the Sermon on the Mount.

If God had your feet, a lot of you women would not be running around talking about your neighbors. A lot of you men would not be going to the saloons, and a lot of you boys and girls would not be going to the dance halls.

If God had your feet, they would be headed toward the church rather than to the theater or the ballroom. Your feet would be pointed to God, not to the Devil.

Work Only With Mouth

Some people work only with their mouths. God wants that part that is on the ground. Some soldiers only sit around and smell the coffee and watch the bacon frying. Some preachers need the cushions of their chairs upholstered much oftener than they need their shoes half-soled.

If God had your hands, He would make you let go of a lot of things you hold onto with a death-like grip. If you don't let go of some of the things you hold so tightly, they will drag you down to Hell. He would have you let go of some of the things you pay taxes on, but don't even own, and He would make you let go of money to pay taxes on some that you do own. Some people are so busy muck-raking that they will lose a crown of glory hereafter.

If God had your hands, how many countless tears you would wash away. A friend of mine bought a typewriter, and when he tried to use it his fingers seemed to be all thumbs, but now he can write 125 words a minute. Let God have your hands and He will make them do things that would make the angels wonder and applaud.

Sent Him to His Death

A young man went down to Thomasville, Alabama, and while there was invited to a dress ball—or rather an undress ball, if what I have read about such affairs properly describes the uniforms. A young lady—a young lady with eyes like the dove and with beautiful tresses—came up to him and said to the young man: "Won't you pledge a glass of champagne with me?"

The young man thanked her, but said: "No, I don't drink." "Not with me?" she said, and smiled. Again he answered no. Then she said: "If I had thought you would refuse me, I would not have asked you and exposed myself to the embarrassment of a refusal. I did not suppose you would think me bold for speaking to you in this way, and I thought you might be lonely." A little later she came back to him and

repeated her invitation. Again he said no.

Others came up and laughed. He took it and hesitated. She smiled at him and he gave in and drank the champagne, then drank another glass and another, until he was flushed with it. Then he danced. At two o'clock the next morning a man with a linen duster over his other clothes walked back upon a railroad station platform, waiting for a train for the north; and as he walked he would exclaim, "Oh, God!" and would pull a pint flask from his pocket and drink.

"My God," he would say, "what will mother say?" Four months later in his home in Vermont, with his weeping parents by him and with four strong men to hold him down, he died of delirium tremens.

When that girl received a letter from the mother of the man she had ruined, she must have cried like Lady Macbeth, "Will not all great Neptune's seas wash this blood away?" She knew the great harm she had done.

Look Up, Lift Up

The Epworth League's motto is: "Look up, lift up," but you will never lift much up unless God has hold of your hands. Unless He has, you will never put your hands deep in your pockets up to the elbow and bring them up full of money for His cause.

A man who was about to be baptized took out his watch and laid it aside, then he took out his knife and bank book and laid them aside. "Better give me your pocketbook to put aside for you," said the minister. "No," said the man, "I want it to be baptized too."

There is no such thing as a bargain counter religion. Pure and undefiled religion will do more when God has something besides pennies to work with.

Your religion is worth just what it costs you. If you get religion and then lie down and go to sleep, your joints will get as stiff as Rip Van Winkle's did, and you will never win the religious Marathon.

A man said to his wife that he had heard the preacher say that religion is worth just what it costs, and that he had determined to give more for religion, and to deny more for religion, and to deny himself as well. "What will you give up?" she asked. He said that he would give up coffee, for he dearly loved coffee—used to drink several cups at every meal, the very best. She said that she would give up something, too—that she would give up tea.

Then their daughter said she would give up some of her little pleasures and the father turned to his son, Tom, who was shoveling mashed potatoes, covered with chicken gravy, into his mouth, and he said: "I'll give up salt

mackerel. I never did like the darned stuff anyway."

God Wants the Best

There are too many salt mackerel people like that in the pews of our churches today. They will take something that they don't like and that nobody else will have, and give it to the Lord. That isn't enough for God. He wants the best we have.

Two little girls were playing Noah's ark in the bathtub, and after they had become tired of the game, one of them pulled out the plug and said: "Flood's over." Noah had a sacrifice. The other one said, "Let's have a sacrifice." So they took the soap dish and placed a piece of paper on it, and put a broken sheep from Noah's ark on top of that and set fire to it. Cain's altar was bigger than Abel's, but it had nothing valuable on it, while Abel's had real blood. God rejected Cain's and accepted Abel's.

God turns down the man who merely lives a moral life and does not accept the religion of Jesus Christ. You must come with Jesus' blood. If a man gives his wife a 10-cent pin cushion at Christmas to show how much he loves her, he's a geezer the Devil's stuck on. How thankful you are depends on how much you are willing to sacrifice.

How many of you are willing to walk down here tonight and give me your hand and say you are willing to do God's will and are ready to count His blessings? How many are willing to show how much you love Christ?

I don't believe that the most

honored angel in Heaven has such a chance as we have. Angels can't suffer. They can't make sacrifices. They can claim that they love God, but we can prove it.

What would you think of a soldier if when he was ordered "Present arms," he would answer, "Tomorrow"? If he would say, "When the man next to me does"? If he should say, "When I get a new uniform"? Present—that means now. It is in the present tense. God wants us to make a present of our bodies to Him—because we love Him.

Are you man and woman enough to do it? Are you man and woman enough to give your body to Christ now, to come down here and hold up your hand and say you will?

A little girl showed a man some presents she had received, and he asked her: "How long may you keep them?" "How long?" she answered. "Why, they were given to me. They are mine."

Many Will Rob God

If, when you make a present, you do not mean to give it outright, you are not honest. Will a man rob God? You bet he will—a heap quicker than he will rob anyone else.

"Your body"—that takes the head as well as hands. God wants brains as well as bones and muscle. We ought to do best thinking for God. God is in the greatest business there is, and He wants the best help He can get.

Don't give God the ragtag and the scrap end of everything.

Bishop Taylor promised God he would do as much hard think-

ing and planning for Him as he would do for another man for money. He did it. So did Wesley and Whitefield and Savonarola, and look what they did for God! If there is any better way of doing God's business than there was one hundred years ago, for God's sake, do it! He is entitled to the best there is.

This thing of just ringing the church bell to get people to come is about played out. In business, if they have a machine that is out of date and does not produce good results, it goes into the scrap heap. If a man can produce a machine that can enlarge the

(Continued on Page 4)

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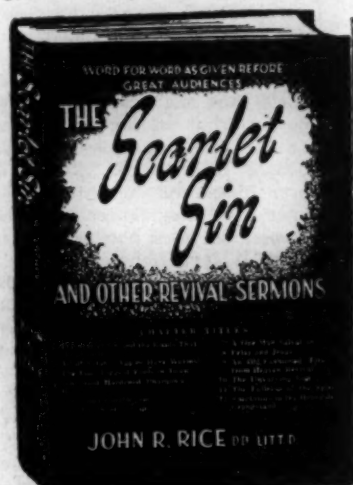
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11. The Fullness of the Spirit
12. Spectators in the Heavenly Grandstand Rejoice with Soul Winners

From the Author's Preface

"It is with a lump in my throat and with a lilt in my heart that I plead for your charity in reading these sermons. If the dear Lord will give you a little of the breathless hush that fell on the audience in the large music hall in Cleveland, Ohio, in March, 1945, when God helped me to preach on 'The Worth of a Soul' and when some thirty people turned to the Lord for salvation as I preached the very words of the message given in this book, I shall be happy. Twenty-three came to Christ as I preached the sermon 'The Unpardonable Sin', in Binghamton, New York, in February, 1936, in a union campaign. What a blessing from God we had that day! It was in Seattle in a union campaign of some sixty churches that I preached the sermon, 'The Fullness of the Holy Spirit,' pleading with the people to seek the power of God. That campaign resulted in 130 public professions of faith in Christ, first-time professions, with 67 others who came as backsliders restored and others saved in personal conversation and in several churches and in the jail. Hundreds of people were saved as these sermons were preached. These services were marked oftentimes by many tears, by audiences deeply moved by the power of the Holy Spirit. So it is my simple, earnest prayer that the dear Lord who saw fit to bless them when preached will bless them now to the heart of every reader. Their faults are many, but they do tell the story of a great salvation and of a wonderful Saviour and so I send them forth; with sorrow over their mistakes and yet with a glad hope that God will use them to save souls and transform the lives of many of His saints."

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The Mercies of God

(Continued from Page 3)

product or better it, that machine is adopted at once.

Same of Religious Methods

But not in religion; we have the same old flintlock guns, smoothbore; the same old dips and tallow candles; the same old stagecoaches over corduroy roads; and if a protest is made, some of you will roll your eyes as if you had on a hair skirt, and say: "Surely, this is not the Lord's set time for work."

Would Stop All Lying

If God Almighty only had possession of your mouths, He would stop your lying. If He had your mouths, He would stop your knocking. If He had your mouths, He would stop your misrepresentations. If He had your mouths, He would stop your swearing. If He had your mouths, He would stop your backbiting. If He had your mouths, He would stop your slanders. There would be no criticizing, no social lies, no talking behind backs.

If you knew what your friends say about you and they knew what you say about them, there would not be four friends left in Omaha. The enemies in this world are chiefly without yourself, anyhow. When you hear one person knocking another, you know that the knocker is trying to drag the one he knocks down to his level.

If God had your mouths, He would stop all the wicked, proud, lying words that now fall from your lips. He would stop all slander and evil speaking. He would stop all hypocrisy.

One time the wife of Samuel Johnson, the great English writer, said to him: "Don't ask a blessing on the food which in a few minutes you will be criticizing and finding fault with."

If God had our mouths, we would not spend millions of dollars a year for tobacco, booze, gum and cigarettes.

How Little Are You Doing?

If God had your eyes, He would bring the millennium. His eyes run to and fro through the world seeking for men to serve Him, and if He had our eyes, how our eyes would run to and fro looking for ways to help bring men to Christ.

How hard it would be for sinners to get away. We would be looking for drunkards, the prostitutes and down-and-outs, to lift and save them. How many sorrowful hearts we would find and soothe. How many griefs we would alleviate.

Great God! How little you are doing! Don't you feel ashamed? Aren't you looking for a knothole to crawl through? If God had our eyes, how many would stop looking at a lot of things that make us proud and unclean and selfish and critical and unchristian.

God wants you to give your body. Are you afraid to give it to Him? Are you afraid of the doctor when you are sick? Your body—that thing that sits out there in the seat, that thing that sits up there in the choir and sings, that thing that sits there and writes for the newspapers, that body which can show Jesus Christ to fallen sons of Adam better than any angel—that is what God wants. God wants you to bring it to Him and say, "Take it, God, it is yours." If He had your body, dissipation, overeating and undersleeping would stop, for the body is holy ground. We dare not abuse it.

As a Living Sacrifice

God wants your body as a living sacrifice, not a dead one. There are too many dead ones. A time was when God was satisfied with a dead sacrifice. Under old Jewish law, a dead sheep would do. Now He wants you, a living sacrifice, a real sacrifice.

There never was a victory without sacrifice. Socrates advanced the doctrine of immortality and died with a cup of poisoned hemlock. Jesus Christ paid with a crown of thorns. Abraham Lincoln paid with a bullet in his heart. If you mean to give yourself as a sacrifice to God, get out

and work for Him. Ask men to come to Him.

"A holy sacrifice." Don't shy at that word holy. Holy vessels were set apart for use in the worship of God. To be holy is to be set apart for God's use—that is all. To be holy isn't to be long-faced and never smile.

"Acceptable unto the Lord." If that were true, then this old desert world would blossom like Eden. If that were taken as our watchword, what a stampede of short yardsticks, shrunken measures, light weights, adulterated foods, etc., there would be! What a stopping of the hitting up of booze! There would be no lying advertisements.

Reasonable Service

Your "reasonable service": God never asks anything unreasonable. He is never exacting. He only asks rights when He asks you to forsake sin. God never made a law to govern you that you would not have made if you had known as much as God knows. You don't know that much and never can, so the only sensible thing to do is to obey God's laws. Faith never asks explanations.

God asks some things that are hard, but never any that are unreasonable.

God's Laws Reasonable

God Almighty never made a law to govern us which we would not have made if we had known as much as He knows. Therefore, it is up to us to have faith in God without asking questions.

It was hard for Abraham to take his son up on the mountain to prepare to offer him up as a sacrifice to God, but God had a reason. Abraham understands tonight and Abraham is satisfied. It was hard for Joseph to be torn from his own people and to be sold into Egypt, and to be lied about, torn from his mother and father, but God had a reason. Joseph knows tonight, and Joseph is satisfied.

It was hard for Moses to lead the Jews from Egypt, following the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night, and make that crossing of the Red Sea, only to have God call him up to Mount Pisgah and show him the promised land and say: "Moses, you cannot go in." It was hard, but God had a reason. Moses understands tonight, and Moses is satisfied.

It was hard for Job to lose his children and all that he possessed, to be afflicted with boils, and to be so miserable that only Panacea, his wife, remained with him. But God had a reason. Job understands tonight, and Job is satisfied.

Hard Thing for Jesus

It was a hard thing God asked of Jesus—to leave the songs of the angels and the presence of the redeemed and glorified and come down to earth to be born amid the malodors of a stable, and be forced to flee from post to post, and dispute with the learned doctors in the temple at twelve years of age and confute them, and to still the storm and the troubled waters, and to say to the blind, "Be whole," and finally to be betrayed by one of His own followers and to be murdered through a conspiracy of Jews and Gentiles; but now He sits on the throne with the Father, awaiting for the time to judge the world. Jesus understands tonight, and Jesus is satisfied.

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Spirit-Filled Means Empowered Witnessing

(Continued from Page 1)

be preached to every creature, that the apostles and the converts they would win and other Christians to be won down through the ages, should preach the gospel among all nations, even to the end of the age. As given in the Gospel of Luke, the Great Commission given by our Saviour plainly says that they were to wait for the power of the Holy Spirit in order to carry out the Great Commission and to witness to all the world with supernatural power.

Let us read the Great Commission as given in Luke 24:46-49 very carefully.

"... Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high."

If you analyze this passage carefully you will see, first, that the Lord Jesus is commanding "that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." Second, you will see that these disciples to whom He is speaking are the witnesses who are to begin the work, taking the gospel to every creature. Third, for this purpose the power of the Holy Spirit was to come upon them.

It is as plain as the nose on one's face that the endowment of power from on high which came at Pentecost was given to enable people to witness for Jesus, preaching and teaching repentance and forgiveness of sins to sinners all over the world, beginning at Jerusalem.

One statement of the Bible should be enough for a Christian. But there is another statement certainly just as explicit as this, given in Acts 1:8. Remember that the Gospel of Luke and the book of Acts have much in common. Both were written by the same man, Luke, under divine inspiration. Both were addressed to the same man, Theophilus. The book of Acts in its first few verses gives a brief resume of the book of Luke. The book of Luke represents Jesus as "the Son of man" in the pattern of a Christian. The book of Luke says more about the fullness of the Holy Spirit than do any others of the Gospels. The book of Luke is intended to be followed by the book of Acts. So Acts 1:8 repeats the clear statement that the Holy Spirit, coming upon the disciples at Pentecost, was intended to empower them for soul winning and witnessing.

Jesus had just commanded the disciples "that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me, For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many

days hence" (Acts 1:4, 5). There is no misunderstanding the setting. Then Jesus explains, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

Jesus did not say that the disciples would receive tongues, nor sanctification, nor see the origin of the church, nor feel a great ecstasy of joy; no, not that! Jesus said that these disciples should receive power after that the Holy Ghost should come upon them at Pentecost! And power for what? Power to be witnesses: "And ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." No honest Christian can misunderstand the meaning of the Lord Jesus here. The coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples at Pentecost was to empower them for soul-winning witnessing.

2. Since the Great Commission Is for Us, So Also Is the Promised Power for Soul Winning

But what the fullness of the Holy Spirit meant to the disciples who heard Jesus give these commands and these promises is exactly the same as the fullness of the Holy Spirit will mean for us. For the clear promise of Jesus in Luke 24:46-49 and in Acts 1:8 is in the Great Commission, to last to the end of the age! The Great Commission given by the Saviour in Luke 24:47, "That repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations..." certainly could not be fulfilled by the apostles alone. The apostles and others of the one hundred and twenty who were filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost did go to many nations, but not to all nations. The Great Commission is for the whole church of Christ and all through this age. And only the whole church of Christ can perfectly fulfill this command of the Lord Jesus about taking the gospel to all nations. And that means that in our day when the Holy Spirit comes upon us we will receive power for witnessing, just as the disciples received power for witnessing in their day. The Great Commission is as clearly for Christians today as it was for Christians who waited for Pentecost over nineteen hundred years ago.

Acts 1:8 also clearly speaks to

the whole church of Jesus Christ, to all the Christians of this age. "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." It was utterly impossible for the one hundred and twenty who were empowered for witnessing at Pentecost, to complete the work of this Great Commission. They could not take it to every hamlet, to every village, to every home, to every person, as Jesus commanded them to do. They made a good start. But what I am proving is that Acts 1:8 fits us as well as it fitted the disciples in the New Testament. And that means that the fullness of the Spirit today will mean soul-

(Continued on Page 5)

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Spirit-Filled Means Empowered Witnessing

(Continued from Page 4)

winning power on our witnessing, just as it did then.

3. Dr. R. A. Torrey Has Wonderfully Stated This Truth, That to Be Filled With the Spirit Means Power for Soul-Winning Witnessing

In the splendid book, *The Holy Spirit, Who He Is and What He Does*, by the late Dr. R. A. Torrey, published in 1927, the year before his death, Dr. Torrey has a statement which we want to quote. Dr. Torrey uses the term, "the baptism with the Holy Spirit." He meant, just as Jesus meant in Acts 1:5, the fullness of the Spirit which came at Pentecost. Dr. Torrey's term is a Scriptural term, but we want to make sure that he is not misunderstood. The following great statement is by Dr. Torrey:

"3. In the third place, the baptism with the Holy Spirit is a work of the Holy Spirit always connected with and primarily for the purpose of testimony and service. This is evident from the passage where our Lord Jesus made the original promise of the baptism with the Holy Spirit, Acts 1:8: 'But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.' The same thing is evident from the twelfth chapter of First Corinthians, where the whole subject of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is treated at length and in detail. We will not take time to read the passage now, although we shall have occasion to read much of it later. There is not one single passage in the Bible, either in the Old Testament or the New Testament, where the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is spoken of, where it is not connected with testimony or service. I made this statement some years ago in speaking to a large class of theological students. At the close of the lecture two student came up to me and said, 'Did we understand you to say, Mr. Torrey, that there was not a single passage in the Bible, where the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is mentioned, where it is not connected with testimony or service?' 'Yes,' I replied, 'that is exactly what I said.' 'Well,' they said, 'we doubt it.' I replied, 'You have a perfect right to doubt it, but now go and search your Bible and bring me, if you can, one single passage in the Bible where the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is definitely mentioned or referred to, where it is not connected with testimony or service.' They went to work to search for the passage. I think they must be searching for it yet, for they have never brought it to me; and they never will, for it is not to be found anywhere in the Bible. I have gone through my Bible on this subject, time and time again since I made that remark to those students, and without the slightest fear of successful contradiction I repeat the statement already made, that there is not a single passage in the Old Testament or New Testament where the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is spoken of or referred to where it is not connected with testimony or service.

"The Baptism with the Holy Spirit is not primarily for the purpose of making us individually holy. Please note carefully my words and grasp exactly what I say. I do not say that it is not the work of the Holy Spirit to make us holy, for it is His work to make us holy, and it is only through His work that any one of us can become holy. I do say, however, that it is not the primary purpose of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit to make us holy. The primary purpose of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is to equip us and fit us for service. This will become still clearer when we come to study the next part of our subject: the Results of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.

"Neither is it the primary purpose of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit to make us personally hap-

py. Note again carefully what I say. I do not say that the Baptism with the Holy Spirit will not make us happy, if we receive it. I have never known anyone yet who was 'baptized with the Holy Spirit' into whose heart a new and more wonderful joy did not come, but I am saying that this is not the primary purpose of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. The primary purpose of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is not to make us happy but to make us useful for God. I am glad that this is so, for while ecstasies are all right in their place, and while I know something about them in my own experience, yet in a world such as you and I live in, where there is this awful tide of men, women, and children sweeping on unsaved to a hopeless eternity, I would rather go my entire life through without one single touch of ecstasy or rapture, and have power to do my part to stem this awful tide and save at least some, than to have indescribable raptures every day of my life and have no power to save the lost.

"I wish to be very clear and very emphatic at this point, for here is where a multitude of people in our day are going astray. Men and women go off to 'Bible Conferences,' to 'meetings for the deepening of the spiritual life,' and to 'tarrying meetings,' and all that sort of thing, and they come back and tell you what a wonderful experience they have had, what raptures they have passed through, and how they have been 'baptized with the Holy Spirit,' and I have watched carefully a good many of these people; and many of them are of no more use to their pastors or their churches than they were before. And some of them are of far less use than they were before and are sometimes a positive nuisance. They have no more love for souls than they had before, make no more effort for the salvation of the lost than they did before, and win no more souls to Christ than they did before; and I am therefore sure that whatever experience they may have received they have not had the Baptism with the Holy Spirit along the lines so plainly laid down in God's own Word. So I repeat it again, THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT IS ALWAYS CONNECTED WITH, AND IS PRIMARILY FOR THE PURPOSE OF, EQUIPMENT FOR TESTIMONY AND SERVICE: IT IS TO MAKE US USEFUL FOR GOD IN THE SALVATION OF SOULS AND NOT MERELY TO MAKE US HAPPY."

Every honest student, after reading the Scriptural proof we will give below, must agree with what Dr. Torrey says, that to be filled with the Holy Spirit or baptized with the Holy Spirit, or endued with power from on high, or to have the Holy Spirit poured on one, as at Pentecost, means that one will have the power of God upon his witnessing and soul-winning efforts.

In other words, one could properly say that one who is filled with the Holy Spirit wins souls. One who does not win souls is not filled with the Holy Spirit. And all who win souls in any degree do it by some measure of the power of the Holy Spirit.

II. People Filled With the Holy Spirit Before Pentecost Witnessed for God With Power

It would be an easy matter to go through the Old Testament and find Scripture after Scripture showing that Old Testament prophets, when the Spirit of God came upon them, witnessed for God with power. And that endowment of power on Old Testament prophets, on David, on some of the judges, was the same endowment of power as came at Pentecost, and is mentioned in other places in the New Testament. But here it seems wise to use the examples in the Bible where Christians are said to be "filled with the Spirit" or "filled with the Holy Ghost" before Pente-

cost. One of these cases is in the Old Testament and four others are in the Gospel of Luke. In each case people who were "filled with the Spirit" or "filled with the Holy Ghost" witnessed for the Lord with power.

1. Bezaleel, Who Worked On the Tabernacle and Its Furniture in the Wilderness Was "Filled . . . With the Spirit of God"

In Exodus 35:30, 31 we are told: "And Moses said unto the children of Israel, See, the Lord hath called by name Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; And he hath filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship."

Aholiab and others helped Bezaleel. But Bezaleel was particularly "filled . . . with the spirit of God" for this work.

At first glance one would not think that this tabernacle was a gospel testimony for God. It is service, truly; but was the work of Bezaleel in building the tabernacle and its furniture and the garments of the priesthood really a testimony to Christ and to the plan of salvation? Assuredly it was!

The tabernacle in the wilderness is one of the clearest pictures of Christ. The outer covering of the tabernacle was of badger skins, dull and drab, for Christ has no form nor comeliness to the outsiders who do not know His beauty. Another covering underneath was of rams' skins dyed red, which surely was meant to symbolize the blood of Jesus Christ which atoned for our sins. And under that was a white linen cover which pictured the beauty and sinless righteousness of the Lord Jesus, manifest only to those who know Him.

The upright boards of the tabernacle, of shittim wood, represented the humanity of Christ. The solid covering of the boards with gold pictured the deity of Christ. The tenons on the ends of these boards rested in sockets of silver, and this silver was the redemption money paid in for the redemption of all the men of Israel. Surely, surely it pictured Christ our Redeemer, buying men out of sin. In the tabernacle the golden lampstand pictured Christ, the light of the world. The table of shewbread pictured Christ, the bread of life. The great brass altar out in front pictured Christ bearing the judgment and wrath of God for us, every time a lamb was slain, or a bullock, or a red heifer, or a scapegoat! All about the tabernacle and its furniture and its services reminds us of Jesus Christ and of salvation by the blood! How foolish it would have been to expect any man to plan and supervise the construction of all this wonderful wealth of material, with every item of it picturing something about Jesus and salvation, unless the one so engaged were filled with the Spirit of God to give him wisdom and power on this testimony! One who reads C. H. Mackintosh on the Pentateuch or Christ in the Pentateuch, by J. B. Tidwell, will find wonderful help here. Bezaleel was filled with the Spirit of God for a soul-winning testimony.

2. John the Baptist Was "Filled With the Holy Ghost," That Is, Soul-Winning Power.

Zacharias, the priest, and his wife Elisabeth had earnestly prayed for a son. God sent an angel to tell Zacharias the glad news, as he was in the temple of the Lord in regular service. This is the message the angel gave:

"Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God."—Luke 1:13-16.

John the Baptist was to "be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb." "Filled with the Holy Ghost," is exactly the same term used of the disci-

ples at Pentecost in Acts 2:4. And what were the results when John the Baptist was filled with the Holy Ghost? What would be the evidence? What would the fullness of the Holy Spirit do in John? We are answered in Luke 1:16: "And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God." John the Baptist, filled with the Holy Spirit, turned many, many souls to God. He had soul-winning power.

Throughout the Gospel of Luke and the book of Acts wherever people were filled with the Holy Spirit you will find an 'and.' That is, something else is to happen when people are filled with the Holy Spirit. Being filled with the Spirit is never an end in itself. It is always for soul-winning witness in power.

3. Elisabeth Also Was Filled With the Holy Ghost and Witnessed for Christ

In the first chapter of Luke we learn how Elisabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, was herself filled with the Holy Ghost.

"And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb."—Luke 1:41, 42.

Elisabeth was "filled with the Holy Ghost." Again, it is exactly the same term as used in Acts 2:4 about the endowment with power at Pentecost. And Elisabeth, we find, when she was filled with the Holy Ghost, "spoke out with a loud voice," and gave testimony to the coming Saviour to be born of the Virgin Mary! Study the passage carefully, including Luke 1:43-45, and you will see that here was a divinely-given prophecy and a supernatural power on Elisabeth's testimony for Jesus.

4. Zacharias, too, Was Filled With the Holy Ghost and Witnessed With Power

In the same first chapter of Luke, verse 67 tells us, "And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying . . ."

A wonderful prophecy is given. By that we mean that it was a Spirit-filled exhortation and revelation, given in the power of God. In this case it was about the coming Saviour, the Messiah. John, Zacharias' own baby boy, was to be the forerunner of the Saviour, and the Spirit of God gave testimony to all who were nearby through the prophesying of the Spirit-filled Zacharias.

It is here well to remember that at Pentecost those who preached the gospel and spoke for Christ were prophesying, in the Bible sense. For Peter plainly said that this was the fulfillment of the words of Joel, "And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy" (Acts 2:18). Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit exactly as they were, and he witnessed with power. In him was fulfilled the promise that Jesus would later give to His disciples in Acts 1:8: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me . . ."

5. Jesus, Filled With the Spirit, Began His Supernatural Ministry

In Luke 3:21, 22 we learn how when Jesus was baptized "the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him." Then Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit, though the term, "filled with the Spirit," or, "filled with the Holy Ghost," is not used in those particular verses. But such a term is used immediately following that in Luke 4:1: "And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness."

Jesus was full of the Holy Ghost. That is exactly what happened to the disciples at Pentecost. The Spirit of God came on them and they were full of the Holy Ghost. Then the same fourth chapter of Luke tells how Jesus "returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee" and began His public ministry, and fame went through all the region. And Jesus told the people, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed

me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised" (Luke 4:18). Jesus was filled with the Spirit just as the apostles were later filled with the Spirit at Pentecost, and the same results were shown in His life and ministry as He promised the disciples. He began his witnessing and to do the soul-winning work of His Father in mighty power, supernatural power.

It is immediately clear that John the Baptist, Zacharias, Elisabeth and the Lord Jesus were filled with the Holy Ghost just as people were filled with the Holy Ghost in the book of Acts. And in every case they began to witness with power, the endowment of power from on high. They began their soul-winning efforts with supernatural help from God. That is what the fullness of the Spirit brings! To be filled with the Spirit means to be empowered for witnessing.

III. In the Book of Acts, Wherever People Were "Filled With the Holy Ghost," They Witnessed With Power

In the book of Acts six times the phrase, "filled with the Holy Ghost," is used. In every case except one we are explicitly told that those filled with the Holy Spirit witnessed for God. In the single exception, Acts 13:52 tells us of the disciples at Antioch of Pisidia, "And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost." We may be sure that they, too, received power and witnessed for the Lord when the Holy Ghost came upon them. But how remarkable that in five out of six cases in the book of Acts we are particularly told that those who were filled with the Holy Ghost witnessed for Christ!

Four other times in the book of Acts the slightly different phrase, "full of the Holy Ghost," is used. Two of these times the phrase, "full of the Holy Ghost," is used about the deacons in the sixth chapter of Acts, and there are three separate instances where people in the book of Acts are reported to have been "full of the Holy Ghost." And in every single case we are told about their soul-winning testimony!

In other words, in nine out of ten times where the book of Acts expressly says that people were filled with the Holy Ghost or full of the Holy Ghost, we are told that they witnessed for Christ. Since the Lord Jesus promised that this would happen, that one should receive power and witness for Him when the Holy Ghost came upon him, we would know it were true if the result were not mentioned in a single one of the ten times. But fortunately the Bible, by line upon line, presses upon our heart this great truth that when the Spirit of God comes upon people He gives them soul-winning testimony!

1. At Pentecost People "Filled With the Holy Ghost" Began to Witness for Christ

In Acts 2:4 we read, "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Never mind the tongues. The message was just the same in effect, though given in different languages. The im-

(Continued on Page 6)

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(Continued from Page 5)

portant thing is that every one filled with the Holy Spirit began to speak for God as the Holy Spirit showed him what to say. In other words, he had power from God on his testimony and began to use this power in soul winning. And so on the day of Pentecost we are told that "they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41).

Pentecost is certainly set as a model case, in some ways a typical case, of a revival when God's people, filled with the Holy Ghost, set out to win souls for Him. And it is important to see the one main thing that Jesus had promised would happen when people were filled with the Holy Spirit, came at Pentecost just the same as at other times. One misses the point of Pentecost entirely if he does not see that here people, filled with the Holy Spirit, set out to keep the command of Jesus and carry the gospel to everybody they could reach, beginning at Jerusalem.

2. Peter, After Pentecost, Was Filled With the Holy Ghost Again for Powerful Witnessing

In Acts 4:8 we find this interesting statement,

"Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel..."

And then follows a wonderful message about the Lord Jesus whom they had rejected, the only name given under Heaven whereby we must be saved. Peter at Pentecost, filled with the Holy Spirit, witnessed with power. A few days later, filled again with the Holy Spirit, he witnessed with power. At Pentecost or after Pentecost, exactly the same thing happens when people are filled with the Holy Spirit. They receive power and witness for Jesus. One who does not witness, or one who witnesses without power, is not filled with the Holy Spirit.

3. The Whole Group of Disciples Were Filled Again, as at Pentecost, With Similar Results

In Acts 4:31 we have a remarkable case to study. It is remarkable, first, because it is a report of how the same group who were filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost were filled again just a little later. It is remarkable, second, because exactly the same nine words are used, "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost." Now read Acts 4:31. It tells the story of how Peter and John, being released from prison, came and told the other Christians their story, and all prayed together. And then,

"When they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."

Many lessons could be noted from this verse. For one thing, those who were filled with the Holy Spirit before and witnessed, needed to be filled again for new power in witnessing. Again, exactly the same thing happened here, essentially, as happened at Pentecost. Exactly the same nine words are used to describe it. The outward manifestations were not the same as at Pentecost. In one case there was a sound of a mighty rushing wind and visible tongues like as of fire, and foreign languages. In the other case there was an earthquake. But essentially exactly the same thing happened. In both cases God gave great power on His disciples for witnessing. These, filled with the Holy Ghost anew, "spoke the word of God with boldness." And verse 33, just following, says, "And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all." And the fifth chapter, immediately following, tells of the miraculous death of Ananias and Sapphira and how "by the hands of the apostles were

many signs and wonders wrought among the people," and then it tells us this heartening and beautiful truth: "And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women."

When people are filled with the Holy Spirit, then they have great boldness to speak the Word of God. Then they have power upon their witness for Jesus! Then believers are added to the Lord! Oh, for God to fill His people again with the Holy Spirit so we may be bold, so we may speak out with power, so many people may be turned from their sins to trust Christ!

4. Stephen, Filled With the Holy Spirit, Witnessed in Mighty Power

In the sixth chapter of Acts we find that the apostles saw the need for deacons, and the people were urged to look out seven men full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom whom the apostles might appoint over the business of the care of the poor. Then Acts 6:5-8 tells us:

"And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch: Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith. And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people."

What happened when Stephen and other godly deacons were full of the Holy Ghost? Then "the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly." And again, "Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people." Here is the power and here is the witnessing, resulting in souls saved! And that is what happens when people are really filled with the Holy Spirit.

Again in Acts 7:55 we are told of Stephen's being full of the Holy Ghost again, "But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God." Stephen is on trial for his life. He has just preached a wonderful story of God's dealing with Israel. And now, full of the Holy Ghost, what will Stephen do? Why, he will testify for Christ, of course, and that with great power! The following verses tell us how Stephen reported, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." And as they stoned him, Stephen called upon God, saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit," and then broken and dying, he kneeled down and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge." The Spirit-filled Stephen died. He fell asleep.

But were there no results, no souls saved, this last time that Stephen was full of the Holy Ghost and gave his dying message? Should we not expect that there would be some work of power, some soul-saving result when Stephen, filled with the Holy Ghost, witnessed for Christ the last time? Yes, and I believe we do have the evidence of the best results that Stephen ever got. For the next chapter tells how "Saul was consenting unto his death," and Saul then went on in his hatred of Christians, after seeing Stephen die. But he could never get away from it. On the road to Damascus, in the ninth chapter of Acts we are told, he was still kicking against the pricks, and, fighting the conviction that was on him, could never get any peace. Oh, no doubt, again and again he could see Stephen's dying face, as the face of an angel, and hear the Spirit-filled testimony that God had

hooked on to his soul with grips of steel! And so Saul was converted out on the road to Damascus. That does not mean that without any human instrument Saul turned to God and became Paul the Apostle. Rather, God had used the message of dying Stephen, Spirit-filled Stephen, to convict and save Paul the Apostle. And when we get to Heaven much of the credit of what Paul the Apostle did will go to the man who died for Jesus while he witnessed, full of the Holy Spirit, before the young man Saul who kept the clothes of those who stoned Stephen.

5. Paul the Apostle, too, Filled With the Holy Spirit, Began His Powerful Ministry

In Acts the ninth chapter, we learn of the conversion of Paul on the road to Damascus. Then after Paul had fasted and prayed three days and nights, Ananias came to him. And Acts 9:17 tells us:

"And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost."

Paul, the new convert, was "filled with the Holy Ghost." This is the same term used of the disciples at Pentecost in Acts 2:4. And what happened with Saul? The following verse says, "And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized." And verse 20, immediately following, says, "And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God." What astonishment to hear the infidel, the murderer of Christians, now himself preaching the gospel in power! When Saul was filled with the Spirit he began bold and powerful witnessing for Jesus. And there is no other explanation for the ministry of the Apostle Paul than this simple fact. He was "filled with the Holy Ghost!"

But Paul was filled with the Holy Spirit more than once. And each time the results were the same soul-winning power. In Acts, chapter 13, we are told of the first missionary journey and how it began, with Barnabas and Saul "sent forth by the Holy Ghost." At Paphos they came to preach the gospel to Sergius Paulus, the deputy of the country. Elymas the sorcerer withstood them and sought to turn away Sergius Paulus from trusting Christ. Here was need for the power of God, if they were to win the lost man they sought to win. And as we should expect, Saul was filled afresh with the Holy Spirit, rebuked the sorcerer with power, and the deputy was saved. Acts 13:9-12 tells this thrilling story.

"Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand. Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord."

Saul was "filled with the Holy Ghost," he spoke out boldly for God, the sorcerer was struck blind, and Sergius Paulus believed.

We are to infer that always those who are Spirit-filled will speak for God boldly, that God's power will be present on the witnessing, and that if the ministry gift of miracles is present, as it was here, it will be for the express purpose of winning souls. The fullness of the Spirit, in the case of Paul, meant empowered witnessing for soul winning. And any ministry gifts which are a manifestation of the fullness of the Spirit, like the tongues at Pentecost, the miraculous death of Ananias and Sapphira or the word of Spirit-filled Peter, or the miraculous blindness of Elymas at

Dr. Bob Jones Says:

"When I first founded Bob Jones College, which is now Bob Jones University, my good old friend L. W. Munhall, who in his early ministry was associated with D. L. Moody and who was one of the most courageous Bible-preaching evangelists this nation ever knew, put his hand on my shoulder and said, 'Remember, he that honoreth Me, him will My Father honor. Now, Bob, if you in this educational institution will honor the Lord Jesus Christ, He will honor the institution.' I had already made up my mind that Jesus Christ should always have first place in everything connected with the school; but that day in my heart, I determined anew that Jesus Christ should always have the pre-eminence."

The academic standards of Bob Jones University, especially in the fields of its emphasis are just as high as those of any other educational institution in America. In fact, the institution in one or two fields, we are sure, excels any other educational institution on this continent. But the first place in Bob Jones University is not the scientific laboratory nor the twelve foreign languages nor any of the other courses offered. The first emphasis is not academic. It is not social. We call our Lord to witness that since the first day we opened school about twenty years ago we have given first emphasis to the Gospel and the salvation of the souls of men. We opened on the first day twenty years ago last September with a revival. The first convert of that first night of the revival is an outstanding preacher of the Gospel. We have made many mistakes, but the Lord Jesus Christ has never been pushed into the background in Bob Jones University. My good old friend Dr. Mun-

hall was right. The Lord has honored Bob Jones University, which has tried faithfully to honor Him. In spite of all satanic opposition and misrepresentation, the growth of the institution is the most miraculous of any Christian educational institution in the history of this Nation. All understanding Christian people who come on the campus say, 'What a miracle. God did it.' Even unconverted people who visit the campus and look at the wonderful plant and realize that it was built in thirteen months under the most difficult conditions say, 'That is a miracle. How did it happen?' We, of course, tell them: 'God did it.'

All of you Christian friends who have prayed for us and who have invested some money in the work have a part and will have a part in the ages to come in the wonderful and miraculous things that God has wrought in Bob Jones University. We could not have borne the burden without you. We could not have done the job if you had not helped us.

This statement will appear the week before our annual meeting of the Board. If we receive immediately, as we are praying and expecting, a flood of financial gifts, large and small, we will be able to give such a financial report to the Board of Trustees that these understanding Christian leaders will say, 'This, too, is a miracle.' Now, remember, if you get your contribution in before the Board meeting, which will be June 15, you will have to send it at once. So let us hear from you and keep praying for us. God bless all of you faithful, understanding, co-operating Christian friends. We love you, every one.

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the word of Saul who was filled with the Spirit, are for soul-winning evidence, to give power to the word preached.

6. Barnabas, too, Filled With the Holy Ghost, Won Many Souls

Barnabas is one of the sweet characters of the New Testament. He was not self-seeking. He was willing to play second fiddle to Paul. He was a great soul winner. And Barnabas, too, was full of the Holy Ghost, and that was the secret for his power.

In Acts 11:24 we have this clear statement about Barnabas and the soul-winning power given him by the Holy Ghost: "For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord."

There is a simple and brief statement. Barnabas was "full of the Holy Ghost," and almost as a matter of fact, as a matter that was inevitable, a matter which must naturally follow, we are told, "and much people was added unto the Lord."

When God's preachers are filled with the Holy Ghost, they will win many souls. When God's lay-people are filled with the Holy Ghost, they, too, will win souls; for Jesus promised, "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Here are the instances we have before Pentecost. Bezaleel, in the Old Testament, filled with the Holy Spirit, was enabled by miraculous power to make the tabernacle coverings and furniture and altars and the clothing of the priest witness to the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ who was yet to come. John the Baptist, filled with the Holy Ghost, turned many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. Elisabeth, filled with the Holy Ghost, spoke with a loud voice a wonderful testimony about the coming Saviour. Zacharias, filled with the Holy Ghost, prophesied about Jesus who would come and witnessed in a loud voice to all the people who gathered to hear him. Jesus, too, filled with the Holy Spirit, did all His marvelous ministry on earth.

In the book of Acts we found it the same way. At Pentecost

people were filled with the Holy Spirit and witnessed with soul-saving power. Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit and witnessed and won souls. Stephen was full of the Holy Ghost and spoke with great power, and multitudes of believers were added to the Lord. Paul the Apostle was filled with the Holy Ghost and began his marvelous ministry. Later, when filled afresh, such powerful results continued. Barnabas was full of the Holy Ghost and much people was added to the Lord.

No honest reader of the Scriptures on this subject can avoid the clear conclusion that to be filled with the Holy Spirit means to have soul-winning power on our testimony!

Are you filled with the Holy Spirit? Well, if you are you will be having this Bible evidence and fruit; you will have the power of God upon you as you witness for Him and win souls. God grant that all His people may seek and may find this blessing, this power, this endowment, to make them powerful witnesses.

You may speak with tongues but you are not filled with the Holy Spirit unless you have power to win souls!

You may have had a great "experience" with ecstasy, but you are not filled with the Holy Spirit after the Bible fashion unless you have soul-winning power like Bible Christians had when filled with the Holy Spirit.

You may claim to be "sanctified," but if you do not have soul-winning power you are not filled with the Holy Spirit! Oh be satisfied with nothing less than the power of God to help you win souls! For to be Spirit-filled means, always, empowered witnessing.

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By the Editor

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Yes, People Will Send Subscriptions to Others

Thank God I have found that many Christians still believe in the Great Commission; believe in taking the gospel to every creature as Jesus commanded. Many people have a conscience about spreading the gospel in literature. I have just been looking over sixteen new letters from people who have been blessed because someone else subscribed for THE SWORD OF THE LORD for them. Strangely enough, two preachers say almost the same thing. Compare the statements in the two following paragraphs.

"I shall be eternally grateful to the unknown person who gave me that first six-months subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, and it is my desire to continue as a permanent subscriber of this fine religious publication," wrote Rev. Ray F. Williams of Newberry, S. C.

"I have been eternally grateful to that unknown person who sent all the Methodist preachers of Virginia THE SWORD OF THE LORD for several months last year. I read the very first issue sent me and you remember I immediately renewed my subscription—that is how much I appreciate it," wrote Rev. James C. Sanders, Jr., Pastor Saint James Methodist Church, Richmond, Virginia.

Do you see the good done by those who subscribe for ministers?

Another minister, Rev. Mack McCline, of Concord, North Carolina, writes:

"About a year ago I received THE SWORD OF THE LORD paper, sent by a friend. I am a young Baptist minister. I have served a Baptist church for the past three and one-half years. I have many good books . . . but I speak the truth when I say that I have found in THE SWORD OF THE LORD more help and encouragement and more spiritual power to witness for my Christ than in all the books that I have studied. May I say again, it has been very much help to me in winning souls for Christ. I say again, it is the best paper that I ever received . . ."

Now why don't you sit down right now and send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to three preachers! It may be as great a blessing to them as it was to three quoted above. To each one of these ministers, some loving friend sent THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Now with grateful heart each renews his own subscription and thanks God for the one who first acquainted him with this soul-winning, revival periodical! Will you do what others did to help

spread the gospel and revival fire?

Gift Subscriptions to New Converts—Then to Every Family in Church

Five years ago a man sent THE SWORD OF THE LORD as a Christmas gift to his sister, Mrs. J. F. Gentry, of Cookeville, Tennessee. Then she began to send it to others, and remarkable results have come. Mrs. Gentry writes:

"Dear Brother Rice:

"Words cannot express the joy and spiritual help THE SWORD has brought to us the past five years since my brother sent it to me as a Christmas gift, and thus introduced it to me. I immediately sent it to four homes of lost people. Then I sent it to a niece in another state for a Christmas gift, and she in turn sent it to several friends and loved ones.

"Following a great tent meeting here two years ago, by Dr. Jesse Hendley, I suggested that we place it in the homes of all the new converts from our 'Mission' budget. This was done, but the Christians in those homes got so much spiritual good from it that when we organized into a Baptist church last November, we sent it to each home through a Church Club. My husband also sent a club of seven to another mission church in an adjoining county last year."

From Spencerville, Indiana, a dear woman writes: "It was through Brother Rice's ministry and THE SWORD OF THE LORD that I was saved, so you can see why it is especially dear to me. I sent my aunt the paper [she lives two hundred miles away] and she was saved. You can imagine my joy when she told me that someone had sent it and through it, she was saved. I was happy to tell her I sent it. How I praise the Lord for it all! . . ."

THE SWORD OF THE LORD helped her to find Christ. So she sent a subscription to her aunt and she was wonderfully saved.

Will Friends Appreciate Receiving THE SWORD OF THE LORD?

If you do not believe that many, many loved ones, acquaintances and friends would be delighted to have THE SWORD OF THE LORD, read the following letter from a Chicago woman:

"Dear Sword of the Lord:

"The Sword is truly a blessing, giving us the best from all over the world, of messages from the Word of God. To read these inspiring sermons and be able to ponder on them and reread them is much better than to hear them even. A friend gave me the subscription last year, with the understanding that I pass them on. I often thought, 'This one is too good to give away, I'll keep it.' But I found, like the manna of old, if I kept it, it grew yellow and brittle after a time. So now I read them twice and pass them on. I've mailed them far and wide.

"Right now I am sitting in the middle of a mess of housecleaning and reading Dr. Bob Shuler's 'Paul Answers David.' What would the neighbors say if they saw me! But the Holy Spirit is in it, and tears blot the pages and my soul is refreshed, and while I clean wallpaper I am thinking on top of the ladder, 'What a wonderful Saviour we have! What a blessed Holy Spirit! How firm a foundation!'"

You see, you can make people happy, can develop them in the Christian life. Why, you can do as great a work as a preacher or a missionary, oftentimes, by getting these sermons by America's leading soul winners, these accounts of revivals, these answers to Bible questions, these deeply spiritual studies on soul winning and the Holy Spirit and holy living into the hands of people by subscribing to THE SWORD OF THE LORD for them.

I cannot take time to quote the many, many other letters before

me from people telling of blessings received when they subscribed to THE SWORD OF THE LORD for them. It would make your heart glad. Not a single one of these people sowed in vain. God has given a blessed reaping, whether they have always heard about it or not. In Heaven we will know the results of what we sow down here for God.

Some Suggestions

Let me earnestly suggest some people to whom you might send subscriptions.

1. Send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to ministers. A recent check showed some six thousand ministers taking THE SWORD OF THE LORD regularly! Preachers say that here they find full-length sermons, find inspiration and help in preaching, find illustrations and sometimes outlines. How could you use \$3.00 to bring as much blessing as by sending THE SWORD OF THE LORD to three preachers who would thus be stirred and blessed richly and helped in preaching the gospel?

2. Send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to unsaved loved ones and friends. Many people, who might not read Christian books, will read a Christian paper with strong evangelistic sermons, with a definite attack on sin and the kind of preaching which holds great congregations all over America. We know from many, many letters that lost people often read THE SWORD OF THE LORD and many are converted to Christ through it.

3. Send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to three new converts. I have before me a letter from a traveling salesman who says that the day after he was saved a brother-in-law gave him a year's subscription and he takes the copy with him and while others go to the cocktail lounges in the hotel he reads THE SWORD OF THE LORD! So subscribe for new converts and help them to grow in grace, to be consecrated, soul-winning, clean Christians.

4. Subscribe for every family in the church, if you can. A dear pastor, Rev. J. Lee Johnson of Fuquay Springs, N. C., writes us that he had sent in over a hundred subscriptions in the last three or four years. First he sent in some seventy subscriptions. In 1947 he sent in 42 more subscriptions for families in his church. God bless this brother who is so concerned that his people grow in Christian grace and have the soul food, the spiritual meat in THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

One man sent a trial subscription to every Methodist preacher in the state of Virginia. I believe that God is going to raise up during this brief campaign many people upon whose hearts He will lay the burden of subscribing to great groups of people. By sending such subscriptions you will bless men and honor God. You will receive a reward in Heaven.

And for each three subscriptions at the special price of \$1.00 for eight months, we will send a free copy of the new book, *God's Cure for Anxious Care*. That is, for every \$3.00 worth of subscriptions sent at this special rate, whether new or renewal, we will send a free copy of the lovely clothbound book with nine chapters of comfort to Christians. In some cases, Christians will want to keep copies on hand to give to shut-ins and all who have trouble. So if you get a number of copies, you will find use for every one of them, in giving them to Christians who need encouragement and comfort and help.

Send your subscriptions today! Canadian and foreign subscriptions will be counted at six months each, 26 weeks, instead of eight months. Renewal subscriptions count the same as new. But please mark each subscription, whether "New" or "Renewal." Give names and addresses carefully. Send subscriptions to Sword of the Lord Publishers, 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

Circus Aerial Performer Leaps to Spiritual Safety

Why Rudyard Kipling Gave Up Beer Drinking

By FAIRY SHAPPARD

Rudyard Kipling, the famous English poet, formerly ridiculed total abstinence and prohibition. But when traveling in America he went one evening into a beer hall in Buffalo, New York, where he saw several horror sights. One which he described was where he saw two young boys get two young girls drunk and then take them reeling down a dark alley. Here is the way Mr. Kipling described this last scene:

"The other sight of the evening was a horror. The little tragedy played itself out at a neighboring table where two very young men and two very young women were sitting. It did not strike me until far into the evening that the pimply young reprobates were making the girls drunk. They gave them red wine and then white, and the voices rose slightly with the maidens' cheek flushes. I watched, and the youths drank until their speech thickened and their eyeballs grew watery. It was sickening to see, because I knew what was going to happen.

"They got indubitably drunk—there in that lovely music hall, surrounded by the best of Buffalo society. One could do nothing except invoke the judgment of Heaven on the two boys, themselves half sick with liquor. At the close of the performance, the quieter maiden laughed vacantly and protested she couldn't keep her feet. The four linked arms and staggering, flickered out into the street, drunk. They disappeared down a side avenue, but I could hear their laughter long after they were out of sight. And they were all four children of 16 and 17!

"THEN, RECENTLY PREVIOUS OPINIONS, I BECAME A PROHIBITIONIST. Better it is that a man should go without his beer in public places and content himself with swearing at the narrow-mindedness of the majority: better to buy lager furtively at back doors than to bring temptation to the lips of young fools such as the four I had seen.

"I understand now why the preachers rage against drink. I have said, 'There is no harm in it, taken moderately,' and yet my own demand for beer helped directly to send those two girls reeling down the dark street—to God alone knows what end. IT IS NOT GOOD THAT WE SHOULD LET LIQUOR LIE BEFORE THE EYES OF CHILDREN, AND I HAVE BEEN A FOOL IN WRITING TO THE CONTRARY."

—Reprinted from Civic Bulletin.

Russian Democracy

A recent issue of *Forbes Magazine* contained the following interesting and highly informative article:

Russia is exerting frenzied efforts to portray communism as superior to other forms of government. Ponder this statement by "Believe It or Not" Ripley, most painstaking in ascertaining facts:

"A Russian citizen:
May not own land.
May not be tried by a jury.
May not choose his own job.
May not absent himself from work.
May not strike.
May not picket.
May not employ labor.
May not travel.
May not own jewelry.
May not ring a church bell.
May not be friends with a foreigner.
Is forbidden freedom of speech,

The face of a young man—clean-cut and handsome, yet with grave expression and burning eyes—stood out in sharp contrast among the other grimed, lined, dissipated, disappointed faces of the large group of men sitting in front of the speaker in a dingy Chicago mission.

A service was being held by a group of workers from the office of Sword of the Lord Publishers. Heart-felt testimonies, fervent gospel singing and the sweet presence of God had prepared the way for the message then being delivered by the leader of the group.

The message was finished and an invitation to accept Christ as Saviour was given. The congregation sang,

Just as I am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come!
I come!

The Holy Spirit dealt with hearts and the young man stood, not singing but soberly reading the words of the song as if weighing each one separately. The voices continued,

Just as I am, and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come!
I come!

As someone turned to speak to him, the young man made his way past those sitting beside him and walked forward with firm, resolute step to the inquiry room. After help from Christian workers the matter was fully settled and he seemed to have complete assurance of salvation.

Then he told us of his career as a daring aerial performer in the circus. What relief his manner showed! What peace there was on his face as he told how, with danger always present, with two recent serious accidents already chalked up to his record, with the knowledge that by one slip of a hand or foot he might at any instant be hurled out into eternity, he had resolved to seek God.

The last performance of the Chicago show was given on Saturday night, the train carrying equipment and showmen was not to leave until Monday morning. God evidently arranged the schedule so he would have a free evening, and down in the worst district, surrounded by taverns and night clubs, etc., he had found this mission on Sunday night, and through it, the Saviour and forgiveness of sins. He went on his way with peace in his heart, and the group from Sword of the Lord Publishers returned to Wheaton, rejoicing and praising the Lord in their hearts.

freedom of assembly, freedom of religion, freedom of soul.

"You will thus see why communistic dictators are frantically resorting to misrepresentation of conditions in their own land and of conditions in non-communistic lands."

— RARE GIFTS —

Pastors — Teachers — Children's Workers. A million boys and girls inspired to "Youngsters for Christ" meetings by lovely rare gifts. Ages 8 to 13. 65,000 accepted Christ. First time decisions. We can supply 52 different gifts. Very small cost. Watch your class and S. S. grow. Give a Gift. Samples and price list free. EVARETT MILLS, NATIONAL DIRECTOR, 1301 West 58th Place, Los Angeles 44, Calif.

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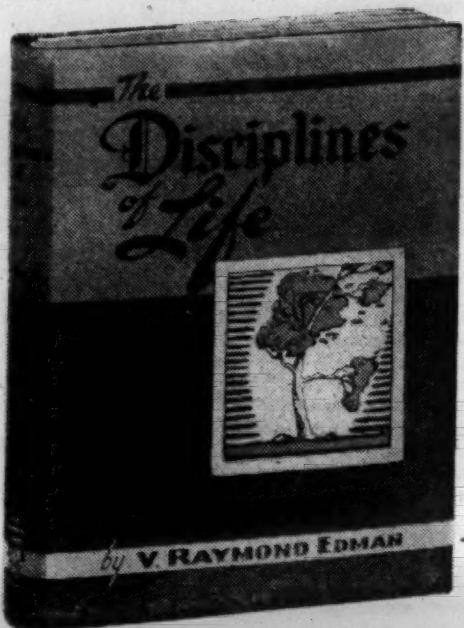


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Sword Book Club

NEWS

JULY, 1948



July Selection

The Disciplines of Life

By V. RAYMOND EDMAN, Ph.D., LL.D.

Another Sword Book Club judge scores! We're proud of the distinguished men who are SBC judges, and we are grateful for the work for God they're doing. So we were delighted when a book by one of these eminent Christian leaders, Dr. V. Raymond Edman (president of Wheaton College) was chosen by the other judges as the July selection.

Built on the theme, "Discipleship Means Discipline," this book is made up of thirty-one messages on the disciplines that train, prepare and glorify the life of a Christian. Chapters on the disciplines of discipleship, danger, daring, darkness, deformity, and even distinction, with many others. Dr. Edman takes little-known passages and makes them dear and familiar; and he takes well-known passages and gives them a new ring, a new vitality, a new applicability to daily life. Note some of the texts: "If any man will come after me"; "That walketh in darkness and hath no light"; "It may be that the Lord will requite me good for his cursing this day"; "The lame take the prey"; "It is good that a man bear the yoke in his youth"; "For even Christ pleased not himself"; "Thy gentleness hath made me great."

These chapters have the scholarly treatment and the literary polish you would expect of a college president, and yet they emanate a companionable warmth that penetrates right down to where you live! Each chapter preceded by a lovely and remarkably fitting poem; you'll want to memorize many of them.

You'll want this book! Thirty-one studies, 253 pages; handy size, 6 1/4 x 4 1/4 inches. Bound in dark red cloth with gold printing, wrapped in three-color paper jacket. Price only **\$2.00**

SBC JUDGES SAY:

Dr. Robert G. Lee: "In this lovely little volume, we are given thirty-one brief talks on the disciplines of life, presented in a heart-warming and straightforward manner, as practical as they are inspiring. Each one is a gem in itself . . . In this undisciplined age in which we live, we need the wise and spiritual counsel contained in these pages. Discipline of mind, of spirit and of body are carefully discussed, as well as discipline of attitude and behaviour. All who read and meditate on these pages will be both edified and instructed."

Dr. Henry Hepburn: "A well-written, splendidly edited little volume . . . Each discipline is well worked out and deeply spiritual in tone. Here is a fine volume to be placed in the hands of college and university students."

Evangelist William H. Rice: "These messages are literary gems and more—they are practical, to-the-point, down-to-earth pages teeming with Scripture that will challenge your very best thinking and living. For example, have you ever known the following passage, selected almost at random, to be surpassed for earnest eloquence and timely truth:

"Self-centeredness makes a man soft, sensitive, selfish. Self-pity makes him pitiable, . . . conceit makes him contemptible. Bitterness of spirit over the success of others makes him blind to his own shortcomings. Envy makes him unenviable . . . Self-pampering makes him sarcastic . . ."

"This is a book you will read first, study second, and cherish always. By all means—get it!"

Dr. T. Roland Phillips: "Before each meditation is a poem which adds much to the helpfulness of the book. The general theme is one often neglected in these easy-going days. The book will be useful for daily devotional reading. It should have a very wide acceptance among the people of God. I most heartily commend it."

Dr. John W. Bradbury: "Here is a pleasing gift book for young and older people, devotional in character and full of excellent counsel."

Dr. Bob Jones, Jr.: "Dr. Edman's book is interesting and thought-provoking—an unusual and fresh approach to well-worn truths."

NOT A MEMBER? — WANT TO JOIN?

Make this a profitable summer—a reading summer!

Now is the time to join the Sword Book Club. You can start your membership with the current selection or alternate, or any past selection. (Circular on many of these free on request). You get a free book when you join, another with every fourth Sword Book Club book you buy. It's simple! And you need buy only four books a year! No ordering, no letters to write. We send you the SBC News each month (in **THE SWORD OF THE LORD**) announcing the monthly selection. If you want the book of the month, you do nothing—simply allow it to come to you automatically, and a bill will be sent for the amount due. If you don't want it (and there won't be many you can resist!) you merely sign the Substitution Form like the one at the right, indicating that you want the Alternate Selection, another substitute, or no book at all that month. Slip it in an envelope and mail it. That's all you ever have to do! You can't lose on an offer like this. Decide on your free book and check below, then sign your name and address on the Substitution Form for members at the right, and send to us.

I want to join! Please send as my free book:

- ☐ **PRAYER—Asking and Receiving**, by John R. Rice. (Regular Price \$2.00).
☐ **THE HOME: Courtship, Marriage and Children**—Rice. Regular price \$2.50.
☐ **OLD TIME RELIGION** by Joe Henry Hankins. (Regular price \$1.50).

Send as my first selection (July Selection or Alternate)

I agree to buy at least four books each full year I am a member, and understand that I am to get a free book with every four selections or alternates I buy. I will send Substitution Form for books I do not want and will pay promptly when billed. (Now sign your name in form at right, and mail to us!)



DR. EDMAN

Dr. V. Raymond Edman is president of Wheaton College at Wheaton, Illinois—the oldest of the interdenominational fundamentalist sound Christian colleges. His background includes missionary service in Ecuador, a seven-year pastorate, a doctorate from Clark University, and teaching at Nyack Missionary Training Institute and Wheaton College in history and political science. The warm friendliness, the humor, the heartiness that made him beloved of the students of Wheaton College, and the fervor of the foreign missionary are combined with the scholarship of the college presidency.

July Alternate

THE THEORY OF PREACHING

By Austin Phelps; Abridged and Revised by Faris Daniel Whitesell

Professor of Homiletics, Evangelism and Pastoral Theology at Northern Baptist Seminary

In 167 pages Dr. Whitesell has condensed the very cream of the great writings by Dr. Phelps on how to preach. We believe there is nothing sounder in print on this wonderful matter of preaching the gospel. The man who studies this will learn reverence for the Word of God, will learn how to select a text, to outline a sermon, how to use proof, texts and illustrations; how to use the imagery and parables and stories of the Bible. It is a reverent book, a scholarly book, and a

fascinating book, one of the very few great books in the world on preaching. Dr. Phelps was a scholar, a brilliant and powerful preacher, and there has long been a cry for this classic of his to be reprinted. Dr. Whitesell has done a great favor to preachers and all who would teach the Word of God in editing and condensing the nearly 600 pages for publication in this book of reasonable size and price. (Alternate counts toward free dividend book). Cloth binding, with jacket, 167 pages, price **\$2.50**

REVIEWS OF THE JUDGES

Dr. Henry Hepburn: "The marks of profound scholarship are found upon every page. A study of these chapters on preaching is like a special course in a theological seminary."

Dr. V. Raymond Edman: "It is a 'Reader's Digest Edition' of the standard work on homiletics. To my way of thinking, nothing has been lost in the abridgment, except perhaps some of the illustrations. It is packed with information and encouragement that will not fail to help every preacher of the gospel. The inclusion of the chapters on 'Style' and 'Men and Books' add greatly to the value of the volume. The chapter on 'Style' is a treasure in itself."

Dr. Robert G. Lee: "A wonderfully helpful handbook for preachers and ministerial students. The author presents the various aspects that should be considered when planning and developing sermons, and gives some constructive and varied ideas concerning them."

Dr. T. Roland Phillips: "This is a reprint of an older book that deservedly found wide acceptance a generation ago. It gives helpful suggestions as to how to prepare sermons and preach them. It ought to be possessed and perused by every one who wants to be effective in preaching the Word of God."

Dr. John W. Bradbury: "Here is a most helpful book for preachers, full of helpful instruction in the method and manner of preaching."

Dr. Bob Jones, Jr.: "Phelps' unabridged work had much of value, and Faris Daniel Whitesell has done a very good job in abridgment . . . Valuable thoughts, excellent ideas."

Evangelist William H. Rice: "Every Christian, whether preacher or not, who is ever called upon to give gospel messages will certainly profit from a study of this book. Sermon construction is thoroughly discussed from the selection of the text to the conclusion of the message with an appeal for decision."

FOR SWORD BOOK CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

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THE DISCIPLINES OF LIFE by Dr. V. R. Edman will be sent to you as the July monthly selection unless this Substitution Blank is received by us before the date shown above.
SWORD BOOK CLUB, 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Ill.
 Gentlemen: Instead of sending me **THE DISCIPLINES OF LIFE** as the July selection,

- ☐ Send me the Alternate Selection, **THE THEORY OF PREACHING** by Phelps-Whitesell
☐ Send me **THE DISCIPLINES OF LIFE** and **THE THEORY OF PREACHING**.
☐ Send me no book this time.
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